

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

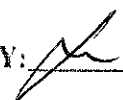


Senate  
Office of the Secretary

10 DEC -1 P12:01

SENATE

S. B. NO. 2619

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Introduced by Senator FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

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### EXPLANATORY NOTE

Our Constitution mandates every citizen's obligation to love the country. Nationhood requires that its citizens agree on forms of expression that symbolize the respect, patriotism and love for this country.

Every nation articulates itself through these symbols, rites or ceremonies. Our national symbols, such as the national flag, the anthem, motto, coat-of-arms, and other heraldic items and devices not only link our collective consciousness to a history, but also as a reminder of how we, as a nation, must continuously strive for justice, equality, and freedom, which these symbols signify. Thus, the respect accorded the use of these symbols form the base of good citizenship and must be reiterated and strengthened.

The amendment of Republic Act No. 8491, or the law that prescribes the Code of the heraldic items and devices in the Philippines, is intended to invigorate love of country and underscore the importance of complying with standard expressions of respect for our national symbols.

The intended amendment is focused on distilling the law by polishing the conceptual outline of the law; amending certain provisions for clarity, and updating the law in the light of contemporary changes in attitudes and idioms.

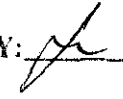
More importantly, the proposed amendments are necessary and timely in the light of practical issues with respect to the singing of the national anthem and the proper display of the flag that have arisen since its implementation in 1998.

For these reasons, the passage of the bill is earnestly requested.

FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

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AN ACT  
STRENGTHENING THE RULES ON THE PROPER USE AND DISPLAY OF OUR  
NATIONAL SYMBOLS AND THE RENDITION OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM,  
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8491, OTHERWISE KNOWN  
AS THE "FLAG AND HERALDIC CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES", AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress  
assembled: .

1 SECTION 1. Sections 2 to 54 of Republic Act No. 8491 are hereby amended as follows:  
2

3 "SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy* – **IT IS HEREBY DECLARED THE**  
4 **POLICY OF THE STATE THAT [R]**Reverence and respect shall at all times  
5 be accorded the flag, the anthem, and other national symbols which embody the  
6 national ideals and traditions and which express the principles of sovereignty and  
7 national solidarity. The heraldic items and devices shall seek to manifest the  
8 national virtues and to inculcate in the minds and hearts of our people a just pride  
9 in their native land, fitting respect and affection for the national flag and anthem,  
10 and the proper use of the national motto, coat-of-arms and other heraldic items  
11 and devices.

12  
13 "SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms* – Whenever used in this Act, the term:

14  
15 "[a) "Military" shall mean all branches of the Armed Forces of the  
16 Philippines including the Philippine National Police, the Bureau of Jail  
17 Management and Penology, and the Bureau of Fire Protection]

18  
19 "(A) 'ADVERTISEMENT OR INFOMERCIAL' SHALL MEAN  
20 ADVERTISEMENT OR ANY INFORMATION MATERIAL IN PRINT,  
21 RADIO, TELEVISION, CINEMA, VIDEO AND THE LIKE, OUTDOOR  
22 AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA, SEEKING TO PROMOTE INDIVIDUALS,

1 ENTITIES, PRODUCTS OR SERVICES FOR COMMERCIAL,  
2 POLITICAL PURPOSES OR INFORMATION CAMPAIGNS;

3  
4 “(B) ‘DISPLAY’ SHALL REFER TO THE MANNER IN WHICH  
5 THE FLAG IS PUBLICLY PRESENTED AND VENERATED.

6 “[b)](C) ‘Festoon’ shall mean to hang in a curved shape between two  
7 points as a decoration, CURTAIN, DRAPE, ETC.;

8  
9 “[c ](D) ‘Flag’ shall mean the Philippine National Flag, unless stated  
10 otherwise;

11  
12 “[d)] (E) ‘Fly’ shall mean the part of the flag outside the hoist or length;

13  
14 “[e) ‘Symbol’ shall mean any conventional sign which reveals man’s  
15 achievement and heroism (for orders and decorations), identification, authority  
16 and a sign of dignity (for coat-of-arms, logo and insignias)]

17  
18 “(F) ‘GOVERNMENT ENTITIES’ SHALL MEAN ALL  
19 BRANCHES OF THE GOVERNMENT, THEIR BUREAUS AND  
20 ATTACHED AGENCIES, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICES, LOCAL  
21 GOVERNMENT OFFICES, GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND/OR  
22 CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS, GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL  
23 INSTITUTIONS, EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, AND THE ARMED  
24 FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES INCLUDING ITS BASIC COMPONENT  
25 UNITS;

26  
27 “[f)](G) ‘Half-Mast’ shall mean lowering the flag to one-half the distance  
28 between the top and bottom of the staff. IF THE FLAG IS DISPLAYED IN A  
29 HANGING POSITION OR USED IN A PARADE AS A SIGN OF  
30 MOURNING, HALF-MAST SHALL MEAN PLACING A BLACK  
31 RIBBON ON THE BLUE FIELD HOIST SIDE;

32  
33 “(H) ‘HALYARD’ SHALL MEAN THE LONG ROPE WHERE  
34 THE FLAG FASTENS AND WHICH RUNS UP THE LENGTH OF THE  
35 FLAGPOLE;

36  
37 “(I) ‘HANGING POSITION’ SHALL MEAN THE WHITE FIELD  
38 SHALL BE ON TOP, THE BLUE FIELD SHALL BE TO THE RIGHT  
39 (LEFT OF THE OBSERVER) IN TIME OF PEACE; THE WHITE FIELD  
40 SHALL BE ON TOP, AND THE RED FIELD TO THE RIGHT (LEFT OF  
41 THE OBSERVER) IN TIME OF WAR;

42

1           “(J) ‘HERALDIC ITEMS/HERALDIC ITEMS AND DEVICES’  
2 SHALL MEAN COAT-OF-ARMS, SEALS, LOGOS, INSIGNIAS,  
3 BADGES, FLASHIES, PATCHES, ORDERS AND DECORATIONS,  
4 MEDALS, STARS, CITATIONS, LAPEL PINS, TROPHIES, DRY, WAX  
5 OR WET SEALS, AND IMPRINTS ON LETTERHEADS, ENVELOPES  
6 AND CARDS;

7  
8           “[(g)](K) ‘Hoist’ shall mean the part of the flag nearest the staff or the  
9 canvass to which the halyard is attached;

10  
11           “[(h)](L) ‘Inclement Weather’ shall mean [that a typhoon signal is raised  
12 in the locality] A WEATHER CONDITION SUCH AS RAIN OR STRONG  
13 WIND THAT WILL BE UNFAVORABLE FOR THE RAISING OF THE  
14 FLAG SINCE IT WILL LESSEN THE DIGNITY THAT SHOULD BE  
15 ACCORDED TO THE FLAG;

16  
17           “[(i)](M) ‘National Anthem’ shall mean the Philippine National Anthem,  
18 ENTITLED “LUPANG HINIRANG”;

19  
20           (N) ‘NHCP’ SHALL MEAN THE NATIONAL HISTORICAL  
21 COMMISSION OF THE PHILIPPINES;

22  
23           “[(j)](O) ‘Official Residences’ shall mean Malacañang, and other  
24 government-owned structures where the President resides, [and other structures  
25 occupied by] the Philippine ConsulateS or Embassies abroad, AND OTHER  
26 STRUCTURES OCCUPIED BY NATIONAL AND LOCAL PUBLIC  
27 OFFICIALS;

28  
29           “[(k)](P) ‘Places of Frivolity’ shall mean places of hilarity marked by or  
30 providing boisterous merriment or recreation; [and]

31  
32           “[(l) ‘Institute’ shall mean the National Historical Institute.];  
33

34           “(Q) ‘PHILIPPINE SUN’ SHALL MEAN THE GOLDEN  
35 SUNBURST WITH EIGHT EQUALLY SPACED RAYS DISPLAYED IN  
36 THE FLAG. EACH RAY HAVING ONE MAJOR BEAM, TWICE AS  
37 BROAD AS THE TWO MINOR BEAMS ON EITHER SIDE;

38  
39           “(R) ‘SYMBOL’ SHALL MEAN ANY CONVENTIONAL SIGN  
40 WHICH REVEALS MAN’S ACIIIEVEMENT AND HEROISM USUALLY  
41 SHOWN OR DISPLAYED IN MEDALS, CITATIONS, ORDERS,

1 AND DECORATIONS OR IDENTIFICATION OR AUTHORITY SUCH  
2 AS COAT- OF-ARMS, LOGOS AND INSIGNIAS;

3  
4 “(S) ‘UNIFORMED SERVICE’ SHALL MEAN ALL BRANCHES  
5 OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES, THOSE OF THE  
6 PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE, BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT  
7 AND PENOLOGY, BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION, BUREAU  
8 OF IMMIGRATION, BUREAU OF CUSTOMS, PHILIPPINE  
9 COAST GUARD, AND OF OTHER AGENCIES USING RANK INSIGNIA;

10  
11 “(T) ‘VEXILLARY ITEMS’ SHALL MEAN NATIONAL, LOCAL,  
12 HOUSE FLAGS, OR ADMINISTRATIVE, INSTITUTIONAL,  
13 CORPORATE, AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL BANNERS; AND

14  
15 “(U) ‘100 TO 120 METRONOME’ SHALL MEAN THE  
16 REGULATED AURAL, VISUAL OR TACTILE PULSE TO ESTABLISH  
17 A STEADY TEMPO IN THE RENDITION OF THE NATIONAL  
18 ANTHEM.”

19 CHAPTER I

20 THE NATIONAL FLAG

21 [A. Design of the National Flag]

22  
23 “SEC. 4. *DESIGN OF THE NATIONAL FLAG* - The flag of the  
24 Philippines shall be blue, white and red with an eight-rayed golden-yellow sun  
25 and three five-pointed stars, as consecrated and honored by the people.”

26  
27 [B. Hoisting and Display of the National Flag]

28  
29 “SEC. 5. *HOISTING AND DISPLAY OF THE NATIONAL FLAG*. -  
30 The flag shall be ~~HOISTED~~ OR displayed in all public buildings, official  
31 residences, public plazas, and institutions of learning everyday throughout the  
32 year.”

33  
34 “SEC. 6. *WHERE FLAG SHOULD BE PERMANENTLY*  
35 *DISPLAYED* - The flag shall be permanently hoisted, day and night throughout  
36 the year, in front of the following: [at] (A) Malacañang Palace; [the] (B)  
37 SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES BUILDING; [Congress of the Philippines]  
38 (C) HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES building; (D) Supreme Court building;  
39 [the] (E) Rizal Monument in Luneta, CITY OF Manila; (F) Aguinaldo Shrine in  
40 Kawit, Cavite; (G) Barasoain Shrine in Malolos, Bulacan; [the] (H) Tomb of the

1 Unknown Soldier, *Libingan ng mga Bayani* IN TAGUIG CITY, METRO  
2 MANILA; (I) ALL MEMORIALS DEDICATED TO THE VETERANS OF  
3 THE MILITARY; (J) *Mausoleo de los Veteranos de la Revolucion* IN THE  
4 NORTH CEMETERY, CITY OF MANILA; (K) MARCELA  
5 AGONCILLO HISTORICAL LANDMARK IN TAAL, BATANGAS; (L)  
6 PINAGLABANAN HISTORICAL LANDMARK IN SAN JUAN CITY,  
7 METRO MANILA; (M) all International Ports of Entry and (N) all other  
8 places as may be SUBSEQUENTLY designated AND MARKED by the  
9 [Institute] NHCP.

10  
11 “The flag, ON THE ABOVE-STATED PLACES, shall be properly  
12 illuminated at night.”

13 “SEC. 7. *DISPLAY OF FLAG IN PRIVATE BUILDINGS AND*  
14 *OFFICES.* -- The flag shall also be displayed in private buildings and  
15 residences or raised [in the open on flag-staffs] ON FLAGPOLES in front of  
16 said buildings [every April 9 (*Araw ng Kagitingan*); May 1 (Labor Day); May 28  
17 (National Flag Day) to June 12 (Independence Day); last Sunday of August  
18 (National Heroes Day); November 30 (Bonifacio Day); and December 30 (Rizal  
19 Day); and December 30 (Rizal Day); on such other days as may be declared by  
20 the President and/or the local chief executives] DURING FLAG DAYS, AS  
21 PROVIDED IN SEC. 25 OF THIS ACT.

22  
23 “The flag may also be displayed throughout the year in private buildings  
24 or offices or raised [in the open on flag-staffs] ON FLAGPOLES in front of  
25 private buildings: *Provided, That* [they] THE OCCUPANTS OF THE SAID  
26 BUILDING SHALL observe flag-raising ceremonies in accordance with the  
27 IMPLEMENTING rules and regulations (IRR) to be issued by the [Office of the  
28 President] NHCP.”

29  
30 [SEC. 8. All government agencies and instrumentalities, and local  
31 government offices, government-owned corporations and local  
32 government units are enjoined to observe flag day with appropriate ceremonies.  
33 Socio-civic groups, non-government organizations and the private sector are  
34 exhorted to cooperate in making the celebrations a success.]

35  
36 “SEC. [9] 8. *DISPLAY OF FLAG ON SEAFARINGVESSELS.* -- The  
37 flag shall be flown on [merchant ships] ALL SEAFARING VESSELS of  
38 Philippine registry [of more than one thousand (1000) gross tons and on all naval  
39 vessels].

1  
2 "On board [naval] **SEAFARING** vessels, the flag shall be displayed on  
3 the flagstaff at the stern when the ship is at anchor. The flag shall be hoisted  
4 to the gaff at the aftermast when the ship is at sea.

5  
6 "SEC. [10] **9. THE BLUE, RED AND WHITE FIELDS OF THE**  
7 **FLAG** – The flag, if [flown from a flagpole] **HOISTED** shall have its blue field  
8 on top in time of peace and the red field on top in time of war; if in a hanging  
9 position, **THE WHITE FIELD SHALL BE ON TOP**, the blue field shall be to  
10 the right (left of the observer) in time of peace, and the **WHITE FIELD SHALL**  
11 **BE ON TOP**, and the red field to the right (left of the observer) in time of war."

12  
13 [The flagpole staff must be straight and slightly tapering at the top.]

14  
15 "SEC. [11] **10. FLAGPOLE IN THE OPEN FIELD.** – If planted on the  
16 ground, the flagpole shall be at a prominent place and shall be of such  
17 height as would give the flag the commanding position in relation to the buildings  
18 in the vicinity. **THE FLAGPOLE STAFF MUST BE STRAIGHT AND**  
19 **SLIGHTLY TAPERING AT THE TOP.**

20  
21 "If attached to a building, the flagpole shall be on top of its roof or  
22 anchored on a sill projecting at an angle upward.

23  
24 "If on stage or platform or government office, the flag shall be at the left  
25 **OF THE OBSERVER** (facing the stage) or left of the office upon entering.

26  
27 "SEC. [12] **11. THE PHILIPPINE FLAG WHEN FLOWN WITH**  
28 **ANOTHER FLAG.** – When the Philippine flag is flown with another flag, the  
29 flags, if both are national flags, must be flown on separate staffs of the same  
30 height and shall be of equal size. The Philippine flag shall be **TO THE LEFT**  
31 **OF THE OBSERVER AND** hoisted first and lowered last.

32  
33 "If the other flag is not a national flag, it may be flown **DURING**  
34 **SPECIAL OCCASIONS** in the same [lineyard] **HALYARD** as the Philippine  
35 flag but below the latter and it cannot be of greater size than the Philippine flag.

36  
37 "SEC. [13] **12. THE PHILIPPINE FLAG WHEN DISPLAYED WITH**  
38 **ANOTHER FLAG.** – When displayed with another flag, the Philippine  
39 flag shall be on the right of the other flag (**LEFT OF THE OBSERVER**). If  
40 there is a line of other flags, the Philippine flag shall be [in the middle of the line]  
41 **AT THE LEFTMOST OF THE OBSERVER.**

1  
2           “When carried in a parade with flags which are not national flags, the  
3 Philippine flag shall be in front of the center of the line.  
4

5           **“ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL FOR THE DISPLAY OF THE  
6 PHILIPPINE FLAG SHALL BE CONTAINED IN THE IRR TO BE  
7 ISSUED BY THE NHCP PURSUANT TO THE COMMON  
8 PROVISIONS STATED IN THIS ACT.”**

9  
10           **“SEC. [14] 13. *PROPER USE, DISPOSAL AND REPLACEMENT OF  
11 WORN OUT FLAG.* – THE FLAG SHALL BE REPLACED  
12 IMMEDIATELY BY THE CONCERNED AGENCY/  
13 INSTITUTION/OFFICE WHEN IT BEGINS TO SHOW SIGNS OF WEAR  
14 AND TEAR.**

15  
16           [A] THE flag worn out through wear and tear shall not be thrown away. It  
17 shall be **TURNED OVER TO THE APPROPRIATE BOY SCOUTS OR  
18 GIRL SCOUTS LOCAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE FOUND IN THE  
19 NEAREST SCHOOL WHO SHALL CONDUCT PROPER DISPOSAL  
20 RITES ON THE WORN OUT FLAG/S** [solemnly burned] to avoid misuse or  
21 desecration. [The flag shall be replaced immediately when it begins to show signs  
22 of wear and tear.]  
23

24           **“THE MANNER OF DISPOSAL OF THE WORN OUT FLAG  
25 SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES TO BE ISSUED BY  
26 THE NHCP.”**

27  
28           **“FLAGS WHICH ARE OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE,  
29 WHETHER LOCAL OR NATIONAL, SHALL BE PRESERVED OR  
30 KEPT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES ON CONSERVATION  
31 AND PRESERVATION OF THE NHCP.”**

32  
33           **“SEC. [15] 14. *APPROPRIATE TIME FOR FLAG RAISING AND  
34 LOWERING.* – The flag shall be raised at sunrise and lowered at sunset. It shall  
35 be on the mast at the start of official office hours, **AND** shall remain flying  
36 throughout the day.**

37  
38           **“SEC. [16] 15. *MANNER OF DISPLAYING THE FLAG.* – The flag  
39 may be displayed:**



1           “(a) Inside or outside a building or on stationary **OR MOVABLE**  
2 flagpoles. If the flag is displayed indoors on a flagpole, it shall be placed at the  
3 left of the observer as one enters the room;

4  
5           “(b) From the top of the flagpole, which shall be at a prominent place or a  
6 commanding position in relation to the surrounding buildings;

7  
8           “(c ) From a staff projecting upward from the window sill, canopy,  
9 balcony or façade of a building;

10  
11           “(d) In a suspended position from a rope extending from a building **OR**  
12 **LAMPOST** to A pole erected away from the building;

13  
14           “(e) Flat against the wall vertically with the sun and stars on top; and

15  
16           “(f) Hanging in a vertical position across a street, with the blue field  
17 pointing east, if the road is heading south or north, or pointing north if the road is  
18 heading east or west.

19  
20           “The flag shall not be raised [when the weather is inclement] **DURING**  
21 **INCLEMENT WEATHER**. If already raised **PRIOR TO INCLEMENT**  
22 **WEATHER**, the flag shall not be lowered.”

23  
24           “SEC. [17]16. **MANNER OF HOISTING THE FLAG**. – The flag shall  
25 be hoisted to the top briskly and lowered ceremoniously.

26  
27           “The flag shall never touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, flood,  
28 water or other objects.

29  
30           “After being lowered, the flag shall be handled and folded solemnly as  
31 part of the ceremony.”

32  
33                           [C. Conduct of Flag Raising Ceremony]

34  
35           “SEC. [18] 17. **FLAG CEREMONY IN PUBLIC OFFICES AND**  
36 **EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS**. – All government offices and educational  
37 institutions shall henceforth observe the flag-raising ceremony every Monday  
38 morning and the flag lowering ceremony every Friday afternoon. The ceremony  
39 shall be simple and dignified and shall include the playing [or] **AND**  
40 **MANDATORY** singing of the Philippine National Anthem.”

1 [SEC. 19. The Office of the President upon the recommendation of the  
2 Institute shall issue rules and regulations for the proper conduct of flag  
3 ceremony.]

4  
5 “SEC. [20] 18. *DIGNITY IN THE OBSERVANCE OF FLAG*  
6 *CEREMONY.* – The observance of the flag ceremony in official or civic  
7 gatherings shall be simple and dignified and shall include the playing [or] **AND**  
8 **MANDATORY** singing of the **NATIONAL** anthem in its original Filipino lyrics  
9 and march tempo.”

10  
11 “SEC. [21] 19. *FLAG-RAISING CEREMONY.* – During the flag-raising  
12 ceremony, the assembly shall stand in formation facing the flag. **PROPER**  
13 **ANNOUNCEMENT SHALL BE MADE PRIOR TO THE SINGING OF**  
14 **THE NATIONAL ANTHEM.** At the moment the first note of the anthem is  
15 heard, everyone in the premises shall come to attention; moving vehicles shall  
16 stop. All persons present shall place their right palms over their chests, those with  
17 hats shall uncover, while those, in military, scouting, security guard, and citizens  
18 in military training uniforms shall give the salute prescribed by their regulations,  
19 which salute shall be completed upon the last note of the anthem.

20  
21 “The assembly shall sing the Philippine [n]National [a]Anthem,  
22 accompanied by a band, if available, and at the first note, the flag shall be raised  
23 briskly.

24  
25 “The same procedure shall be observed when the flag is passing in review  
26 or in parade.”

27  
28 “SEC. [22] 20. *FLAG-LOWERING CEREMONY.* – During the flag  
29 lowering, the flag shall be lowered solemnly and slowly so that the flag shall be  
30 down the mast at the sound of the last note of the **NATIONAL** anthem. Those in  
31 the assembly shall observe the same deportment or shall observe the same  
32 behavior as for the flag-raising ceremony.”

33  
34 [D. Half Mast]

35  
36 “SEC. [23] 21. *FLAG IN HALF-MAST.* – The flag shall be flown at half-  
37 mast as a sign of mourning on all the buildings and places [where it is displayed,  
38 as provided for in this Act] **WHERE THE DECEASED WAS HOLDING**  
39 **OFFICE**, on the day of official announcement of the death of any of the  
40 following officials:



1  
2 “SEC. [25]23. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** – The following shall be  
3 the Pledge of Allegiance to the Philippine Flag:

4  
5 *“Ako ay Pilipino*  
6 *Buong katapatang nanunumpa*  
7 *Sa watawat ng Pilipinas*  
8 *At sa bansang kanyang sinasagisag*  
9 *Na may dangal, katarungan at kalayaan*  
10 *Na pinakikilos ng sambayanang*  
11 *Maka-Diyos*  
12 *Maka-tao*  
13 *Makakalikasan at*  
14 *Makabansa*

15  
16 “[Such pledge] **THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE**  
17 **PHILIPPINE FLAG** shall be recited while standing with the right hand with  
18 palm open raised shoulder high. Individuals whose faith or religious beliefs  
19 prohibit them from making such pledge must, nonetheless, show full respect  
20 when the pledge is being rendered by standing at attention.”

21  
22 “**SEC. 24. OATH OF PATRIOTISM.** – **THE FOLLOWING SHALL**  
23 **BE THE OATH OF PATRIOTISM TO THE PHILIPPINES WHICH**  
24 **SHALL BE RECITED BY STUDENTS IN ALL LEVELS IN ADDITION**  
25 **TO THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE PHILIPPINE FLAG:**

26  
27 **INIIBIG KO ANG PILIPINAS.**  
28  
29 **ITO ANG AKING LUPANG SINILANGAN.**  
30 **ITO ANG TAIYANAN NG AKING LAHI.**  
31 **AKO’Y KANYANG KINUKUPKOP AT TINUTULUNGAN**  
32 **UPANG MAGING MALAKAS, MALIGAYA, AT**  
33 **KAPAKIPAKINABANG.**  
34 **BILANG GANTI, DIRINGGIN KO ANG PAYO NG AKING MGA**  
35 **MAGULANG.**  
36 **SUSUNDIN KO ANG MGA TUNTUNIN NG AKING PAARALAN.**  
37 **TUTUPARIN KO ANG MGA TUNGKULIN NG ISANG**  
38 **MAMAMAYANG MAKABAYAN AT MASUNURIN SA BATAS.**  
39 **PAGLILINGKURAN KO ANG AKING BAYAN**  
40 **NANG WALANG PAG-HIMBOT**



1  
2           “SEC. 27. *FLAG PROPORTIONS.* - The flag shall have the following  
3 proportions. The width of the flag, **ONE** (1); the length of the flag, **TWO** (2); and  
4 the sides of the white triangle, **ONE** (1).”

5  
6           “SEC. 28. *FLAG TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS.* - The technical  
7 specifications **OF THE FLAG** shall be as follows:

8  
9           “The blue color shall bear Cable No. 80173; the white color, Cable No.  
10 80001; the red color, Cable No. 80108; and the golden yellow, Cable No. 80068.”

11  
12           “SEC. 29. *STANDARDS FOR FLAG REQUISITION.* - In order to  
13 establish uniform criteria in the making of our national flag and to guarantee its  
14 durability by the use of quality materials, the following standards and procedures  
15 shall be observed:

16  
17           “(a) All requisitions for the purchase of the Philippine National Flag must  
18 be based on strict compliance with the design, color, craftsmanship and material  
19 requirements of the [G] Government;

20  
21           “(b) All submitted samples of flags by accredited suppliers offered for  
22 purchase for government use shall be evaluated as to design, color and  
23 craftsmanship specifications by the [Institute] **NHCP**, through its Heraldry and  
24 Display Section, which shall stamp its approval or disapproval on the canvass  
25 reinforcement of the flag sample submitted. The samples shall be sent to the  
26 [Institute] **NHCP** by the requisitioning office, not by the flag supplier; and

27  
28           “(c) The Industrial Technology Development Institute (ITDI) or the  
29 Philippine Textile Research Institute (PTRI) of the Department of Science and  
30 Technology (DOST) shall evaluate the quality of material of all flag samples and  
31 certify whether the fabric for the blue, white, red and golden-yellow colors,  
32 including the canvass submitted, conform to government requirements as to  
33 quality of the material. The samples shall be sent annually to the ITDI/PTRI by  
34 the manufacturer. The laboratory test results shall be submitted by the said office  
35 to the [Institute] **NHCP.**”

36  
37           “SEC. 30. *FLAG PURCHASE INSPECTION.* - All deliveries of the  
38 flags requisitioned by the government shall be inspected by the requisitioning  
39 agency’s internal inspector and by the Commission on Audit (COA) using the  
40 flag stamped approved by the [Institute] **NHCP** as reference.”







1                                    "Bayang magiliw,  
2                                   Perlas ng Silanganan,  
3                                    Alab ng puso,  
4                                   Sa dibdib mo'y buhay.  
5                                   Lupang hinirang,  
6                                   Duyan ka ng magiting,  
7                                   Sa manlulupig,  
8                                   Di ka pasisiil.  
9                                   Sa dagat at bundok,  
10                                  Sa simoy at sa langit mong bughaw,  
11                                  May dilag ang tula,  
12                                  At awit sa paglayang minamahal.  
13                                  Ang kislap ng watawat mo'y  
14                                  Tagumpay na nagniningning,  
15                                  Ang bituin at araw niya.  
16                                  Kailan pa ma'y di magdidilim[.].  
17                                  Lupa ng araw, ng luwalhati't pagsinta,  
18                                  Buhay ay langit sa piling mo,  
19                                  Aming ligaya na pag may mang-aapi,  
20                                  Ang mamatay ng dahil sa iyo.

21  
22                    "SEC. [37]36. **RENDITION OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM.** – The  
23 rendition of the National Anthem ],whether played or sung shall be in accordance  
24 with the musical arrangement and composition of Julian Felipe,] **SHALL BE IN**  
25 **ACCORDANCE WITH THE MUSICAL ARRANGEMENT AND**  
26 **COMPOSITION OF JULIAN FELIPE, IN 2/4 BEAT WHEN PLAYED;**  
27 **AND WITHIN THE RANGE OF 100 TO 120 METRONOME, IN 4/4 BEAT**  
28 **WHEN SUNG. THE NHCP IN COORDINATION WITH THE PROPER**  
29 **GOVERNMENT AGENCY, SHALL DISSEMINATE AN OFFICIAL**  
30 **MUSIC SCORE SHEET THAT REFLECTS THE MANNER IN WHICH**  
31 **THE NATIONAL ANTHEM SHOULD BE PLAYED OR SUNG."**

32  
33                    "SEC. [38]37. **MANNER OF SINGING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM.** –  
34 When the National Anthem is played at a public gathering, whether by a band [or  
35 by singing or both,] or [reproduced by any means,] **THROUGH THE**  
36 **PLAYING OF A RECORDING IN ANY FORMAT,** the attending public shall  
37 sing the **NATIONAL** anthem. The singing **SHALL BE MANDATORY AND**  
38 must be done with fervor.

1-  
2 "As a sign of respect, all persons shall stand at attention and face the  
3 Philippine flag, if there is one displayed, and if there is none, they shall face the  
4 band or the conductor. At the first note, all persons shall execute a salute by  
5 placing the right palms over their left chests. [Those in military, scouting,  
6 citizen's] **THE MILITARY AND THOSE** in military training and security  
7 guard uniform shall give the salute prescribed by their regulations. The salute  
8 shall be completed upon the last note of the anthem.

9  
10 **"INDIVIDUALS WHOSE FAITH OR RELIGIOUS BELIEFS**  
11 **PROHIBIT THEM FROM SINGING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM MUST,**  
12 **NONETHELESS, SHOW FULL RESPECT WHEN THE NATIONAL**  
13 **ANTHEM IS BEING SUNG OR PLAYED ON RECORD BY STANDING**  
14 **AT ATTENTION.**

15  
16 "The **NATIONAL** anthem shall not be played and sung [for]  
17 **PRECEDING EVENTS OF** mere recreation, amusement or entertainment  
18 purposes except on the following occasions:

19  
20 "(a) International competitions where the Philippines is the host or has a  
21 representative;

22  
23 "(b) **NATIONAL OR [L] Local SPORTS** competitions;

24  
25 "(c ) During the "signing off" and "signing on" of radio broadcasting and  
26 television stations;

27  
28 "(d) Before the initial and last screening of films or before the opening of  
29 theater performances; **PROVIDED, THAT THE OWNERS AND**  
30 **MANAGEMENT OF THE ESTABLISHMENTS SHALL BE MANDATED**  
31 **TO ENFORCE PROPER DECORUM AND IMPLEMENT THE**  
32 **PERTINENT PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT;** and

33  
34 "(e) Other occasions as may be allowed by the [Institute] **NHCP.**"

35  
36 **"SEC. [39]38. STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH RULES FOR THE**  
37 **RENDITION OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM.** – All officials and employees of  
38 the national and local governments, and any agency or instrumentality thereof,  
39 including government-owned or controlled corporations, privately-owned entities  
40 or offices displaying the national flag and government institutions of learning are  
41 hereby directed to comply strictly with the rules prescribed for the rendition of

1 the anthem. Failure to observe the rules shall be a ground for administrative  
2 discipline.”

3  
4 “SEC. 39. *OBLIGATIONS OF EDUCATION REGULATION*  
5 *AGENCIES.* – THE DEPED, CHED AND TESDA SHALL ENSURE THAT  
6 THE NATIONAL ANTHEM, AS ADOPTED BY LAW, SHALL BE  
7 COMMITTED TO MEMORY BY ALL STUDENTS OF BOTH PUBLIC  
8 AND PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, AND PERFORMED  
9 DURING THE FLAG CEREMONY CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE  
10 WITH THE RULES AND REGULATIONS ISSUED BY THE NHCP. IN  
11 ADDITION, THEY SHALL MAKE AVAILABLE THE VOCAL, PIANO  
12 OR BAND SCORES OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM, AS ADOPTED BY  
13 LAW, TO ALL PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS, AS WELL AS THE  
14 GENERAL PUBLIC.

15  
16 CHAPTER III

17 THE NATIONAL MOTTO, THE NATIONAL COAT-OF-ARMS  
18 AND THE GREAT SEAL

19  
20 “SEC. 40. *THE NATIONAL MOTTO.* – The National Motto shall be  
21 “MAKA-DIYOS, MAKA-TAO, MAKAKALIKASAN AT MAKABANSA”

22  
23 “SEC. 41. *THE NATIONAL COAT-OF-ARMS.* – The National Coat-of-  
24 Arms shall have:

25  
26 “[Paleways] FIELD of two (2) pieces, [azure and gules; a chief argent]  
27 BLUE WITH AN EAGLE AND RED WITH A LION RAMPART, A  
28 WHITE FIELD studded with three (3) [mulletts] STARS equidistant from each  
29 other; and, in point of honor, [void argent overall the sun rayonnant with eight  
30 minor and lesser rays] WHITE OVAL WITH THE PHILIPPINE SUN AT  
31 THE CENTER. Beneath shall be the scroll with the words ‘REPUBLIKA NG  
32 PILIPINAS,’ inscribed thereon.”

33  
34 [CHAPTER VI]

35 [THE GREAT SEAL]

36  
37 “SEC. 42. *THE GREAT SEAL.* – The Great Seal shall be circular in  
38 form, with the arms as described in the preceding section, but without the scroll  
39 and the inscription thereon.  
40

1           “Surrounding the whole shall be a double marginal circle within which  
2 shall appear the words ‘Republika ng Pilipinas.’ For the purpose of placing The  
3 Great Seal, the color of the arms shall not be deemed essential but tincture  
4 representation must be used.”

5  
6                   [The Great Seal shall bear the National Motto.]  
7

8           “SEC. 43. *WHERE TO AFFIX THE GREAT SEAL.* -- The Great Seal  
9 shall be affixed to or placed upon all commission signed by the President and  
10 upon such other official documents and papers of the Republic of the Philippines  
11 as may be provided by law, or as may be required by custom and usage. The  
12 President shall have custody of the Great Seal.”

13  
14                                   CHAPTER [VI] IV  
15                                   [OFFICIAL SEAL AND OTHER ]  
16                                   HERALDIC ITEMS AND DEVICES

17  
18           “SEC. 44. *ADOPTION OF HERALDIC AND SIMILAR DEVICES.* -  
19 Any government entity, including the military, may adopt appropriate  
20 **HERALDIC ITEMS AND DEVICES SUCH AS MEDALS**, coat-of-arms,  
21 administrative seals, logo, insignia, badges, patches, and banners; and initiate  
22 awards, citations, orders or decorations; as may be authorized by Congress or the  
23 Office of the President.”

24  
25           “SEC. 45. *REPORTORIAL REQUIREMENTS.* -- Such heraldic devices  
26 and items shall be filed with the [Institute] **NHCP** for recording and evaluation as  
27 to precedence, design, customs and traditions. The [Institute] **NHCP** shall  
28 promulgate the corresponding rules and regulations which shall be submitted for  
29 approval to the Office of the President or to Congress.”

30  
31           “SEC. 46. *PURCHASE OF HERALDIC ITEMS AND DEVICES*  
32 *FROM ACCREDITED SOURCES.* -- All government offices including the  
33 military are hereby ordered to purchase all heraldic items and devices from  
34 manufacturers accredited and authorized by the [Institute] **NIICP**. Such items and  
35 devices shall be subject to inspection by the purchasing agency’s internal  
36 inspector and the COA representative using the design and specifications  
37 approved by the Office of the President or by the Congress, through the [Institute]  
38 **NIICP**.  
39

1 [SEC. 47. No government official or employee shall accept any orders or  
2 decorations from any foreign government without the consent of Congress, and  
3 without prior evaluation and documentation of such order or decoration by the  
4 Institute.]

5  
6 CHAPTER [VII] V  
7 PENALTIES  
8

9 "SEC. [48] 47. **PUBLIC CENSURE/CANCELLATION OF PERMIT.** --  
10 Failure or refusal to observe the provisions of this Act; and any violation of the  
11 corresponding rules and regulations issued by the [Office of the President,]  
12 **NIICP** shall after proper notice and hearing, be penalized by public censure  
13 which shall be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation."  
14

15 "The Department of Education [Culture and Sports] (DepEd) and the  
16 Commission on Higher Education (CHED), upon the recommendation of the  
17 [Institute] NHI and after the proper notice and hearing, shall cause the  
18 cancellation of the recognition or permit of any private educational institution  
19 which fails or refuses to observe the provisions of this Act for the second time."  
20

21 ["SEC. 49 -- The Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS)  
22 and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) shall ensure that the National  
23 Anthem, as adopted by law, shall be committed to memory by all students of both  
24 public and private educational institutions, and performed during the flag  
25 ceremony conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations issued by the  
26 Officer of the President. In addition, they shall make available the vocal, piano or  
27 band scores of the National Anthem, as adopted by law, to all private and public  
28 schools, as well as the general public.]

29  
30 "SEC. [50] 48. **PUNISHMENT FOR VIOLATIONS.** -- Any person  
31 **WHO** or **ANY** juridical entity which violates any of the provisions of this Act  
32 shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not less than [Five] **FIFTY**  
33 thousand pesos [(P5,000)] (**PHP 50,000.00**) nor more than [Twenty] **ONE**  
34 **HUNDRED** thousand pesos [(P20,000)] (**PHP 100,000.00**) [,] [or] **AND** by  
35 imprisonment for not more than [one (1) year] **TWO (2) YEARS**: [or both such  
36 fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court: *Provided*, That for any  
37 second and additional offenses, both fine and imprisonment shall always be  
38 imposed:] *Provided*, [further] That in case the violation is committed by a  
39 juridical person, its President or Chief Executive Officer thereof shall be liable.

1  
2 "THE NIICP MAY PRESCRIBE IN THE IMPLEMENTING  
3 RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THIS ACT OTHER ACTS OR  
4 OMISSIONS WHICH SHALL BE DEEMED DISRESPECTFUL, AND  
5 THUS PROHIBITED, RELATIVE TO THE FLAG, NATIONAL  
6 ANTHEM, GREAT SEAL, COAT-OF-ARMS, NATIONAL MOTTO, AND  
7 OTHER HERALDIC ITEMS AND DEVICES."

8  
9 "SEC. 49. *CITIZEN'S ARREST.* - ANY CITIZEN SHALL HAVE  
10 THE POWER TO CONDUCT A CITIZEN'S ARREST IF A PERSON IS  
11 ACTUALLY VIOLATING ANY OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT IN  
12 HIS/HER PRESENCE AND CAN SUMMON ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT  
13 OFFICERS TO ASSIST HIM IN CONDUCTING CITIZEN'S ARREST.  
14 ALL SECURITY PERSONNEL AND USHERS IN MOVIEHOUSES ARE  
15 LIKEWISE AUTHORIZED TO ARREST THE VIOLATORS."

16  
17 CHAPTER [VIII] VI  
18 COMMON PROVISIONS  
19

20 "SEC. [51] 50. *APPROPRIATIONS.* - TO CARRY OUT THE  
21 PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT, THE AMOUNT OF FIFTEEN MILLION  
22 PESOS (Php 15,000,000.00) SHALL BE INITIALLY APPROPRIATED  
23 OUT OF THE FUNDS OF THE NATIONAL TREASURY. SUBSEQUENT  
24 APPROPRIATIONS SHALL BE PROVIDED BY CONGRESS IN THE  
25 ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE NIICP UNDER THE GENERAL  
26 APPROPRIATIONS ACT."

27 "SEC. 51. *ISSUANCE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS AND*  
28 *THEIR ENFORCEMENT.* - The [Institute] NHCP shall issue the necessary  
29 rules and regulations [to implement the provisions of Act] within ninety (90)  
30 days after [effectivity] **THE APPROVAL OF THIS ACT.** The [Institute]  
31 NHCP shall submit its rules and regulations to the Office of the President and the  
32 Congress of the Philippines."

33  
34 "[SEC. 52 -] The [Institute] NHCP shall [also] be responsible for the  
35 strict enforcement of the provisions of this Act. It may call upon any government  
36 department, agency, office, or government instrumentality, including government  
37 corporations and local government units, for such assistance as it may deem  
38 necessary for the effective discharge of its functions under this Act."

1  
2            “[Sec. 53. *Separability Clause* – If any provision, or part hereof, is held  
3 invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act not otherwise affected  
4 shall be valid and subsisting.]

5  
6            “SEC 52. *SEPARABILITY CLAUSE*. – IF FOR ANY REASON, ANY  
7 PORTION OR PROVISION OF THIS ACT SHALL BE DECLARED  
8 UNCONSTITUTIONAL, OTHER PARTS OR PROVISIONS HEREOF  
9 WHICH ARE NOT AFFECTED THEREBY SHALL CONTINUE TO BE  
10 IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.”

11  
12            “[SEC. 54. *Repealing Clause*. – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,  
13 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation  
14 contrary to part or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are  
15 hereby repealed or modified accordingly.]

16  
17            “SEC. 53. *REPEALING CLAUSE*. – ALL LAWS, DECREES,  
18 EXECUTIVE ORDERS, RULES AND REGULATIONS, PART OR PARTS  
19 THEREOF, INCONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT,  
20 ARE HEREBY REPEALED OR MODIFIED ACCORDINGLY.”

21  
22            SEC. 2. *Effectivity* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from the date of its  
23 publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation,  
24 whichever comes earlier:

25            Approved,